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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAME OF INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/085,526	02/26/2002	Helmut Heide	930088-2066	1405
20999 7590 06/03/2004				
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG 745 FIFTH AVENUE- 10TH FL. NEW YORK, NY 10151				
EXAMINER GROUP, KARL E				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1755				

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/085,526	HEIDE ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Karl E Group	1755	

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☒ Some c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12-20-02 9-28-03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The documents crossed off the PTO-1449 have not been considered because an English language translation has not been provided.

Claim Observations

2. The limitations following the terminology "especially" and "preferably" are not considered to further limit the claims. If applicants intend to have these limitations considered it is suggested to rewrite ant limitations as dependent claims.
3. It is requested to remove al parenthesis from the claims such as claim 1, line 1. Having two names for one material clearly leads to confusion in the claims as well as any limitation within the parentheses does not necessarily further limit the claims.
4. It should also be noted the terminology "which can be" does not require the claim to be further limited.
5. Claim 12, "wherein the tubular pores have" is suggested.
6. Claim 14 "having an overall" is suggested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1, "the residue", "the baked blanks", "the thermodynamically stable adjacent phases", "the presynthesis product", "the powdered presynthesis product

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together with PHOSPHATE POWDER*, "phosphate powder according to step (a)" lack antecedent basis.

Claim 2 the recited limitations lack antecedent basis.

Claim 6, "the sintered structure" and "the matrix" lack antecedent basis.

Claim 7 it is not clear what is intended by "wherein a microporosity".

Claim 10, "the block surface" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 13, "the formation material in block form" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim 15 is incomplete.

Claim 16, "the block form" lacks antecedent basis. Also it cannot be seen how a block may be a cuboid, taper, cone or disk. It also is not clear what is encompassed by cuboid.

Claim 18 "the practitioner" lacks antecedent basis.

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(c) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-5,7-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a or e) as being anticipated by Ayers et al (20040019385).

In view of the lack of antecedent basis of limitations and the terminology "can be" the instant claims are considered to be anticipated over Ayers et al who teach a beta tricalcium phosphate implant with porosity, see page 2, paragraphs 20 and 32. The claims are considered anticipated.

12. Applicant cannot rely upon the foreign priority papers to overcome this rejection because a translation of said papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. See MPEP § 201.15. Also this application was filed as a CIP.

13. Claims 1-5,16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese document 1-108143.

The Japanese document teaches a sintered beta-tricalcium phosphate used as an implant material (see abstract). The terminology "can be" does not require the formation of any porosity in the formation material and therefor the claims are considered anticipated.

14. Claims 1-5,16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jarcho et al (4,195,366).

Jarcho et al teach a sintered beta tricalcium phosphate with a porosity. The terminology "can be" does not require the formation of any porosity in the formation material and therefor the claims are considered anticipated.

Jarcho et al teach a porosity of 50-300 microns.

15. Claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art of record fails to teach a porosity of 2-15 microns.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl E Group whose telephone number is 571-272-1368. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-4:00) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Bell can be reached on 571-272-1362. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Keg
5-28-04


Karl E Group
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755